

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A soft boot for sports use, particularly for snowboarding, of the type provided with laces or other mechanical devices capable of allowing the maximum opening/closure of the boot outer shell whereby the insertion and extraction of an inner boot is made easier, said boot is characterized by the fact that it provides for the application on a top surface of a plate of elastic material, said plate extending longitudinally from the toe of the boot up to the base of the legging.

2. The soft boot according to claim 1, characterized by the fact that the plate is made of a material which has an adequate grade of elasticity.

3. The soft boot according to claim 1, characterized by the fact that the plate is anchored on the boot upper in a stable manner by means of coupling the borders of the plate to said boot upper.

4. The soft boot according to claim 3, characterized by the fact that the plate is anchored to the boot upper by sewing the ends thereof.

5. The soft boot according to claim 1, characterized by the fact that the plate is applied on the boot upper in a condition of pretensionness.

6. The soft boot according to claim 1, characterized by the fact that plate (1) is applied on the boot (2) corresponding to the top surface (3) and extends longitudinally from a toe (4) up to a base (5) of legging (6) and transversely up to covering partially the two sides (7) of the boot.

7. The soft boot according to claim 5, characterized by the fact that the coupling of plate (1) to the outer shell is obtained by sewing a border (8) of said plate (1) on the boot upper.

8. The soft boot according to claim 1, characterized by the fact that the plate (1) covers a portion (9) of the

central opening of the outer shell which engages the neck of the foot.

9. The soft boot according to claim 1, characterized by the fact that the laces or other systems of closure of the outer shell are present only in the external portion (10) which engages the legging.

10. The soft boot according to claim 1, characterized by the fact that the plate has a surface which is convex and smooth.

11. The soft boot according to claim 1, characterized by the fact that it is used as footwear for mountaineering, trekking and similar uses.